

SENATE BILL 1304

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,  
Chapter 29 and Title 49, relative to teacher  
evaluations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-302(d)(1), is amended by  
deleting the subdivision and substituting instead:

(1) There is created the teacher evaluation advisory committee. The committee shall consist of sixteen (16) members. The commissioner of education, the executive director of the state board of education, and the chairperson of the education committee of the senate, and the chairpersons of the education committees of the house of representatives shall be members. The governor shall appoint one (1) member who shall be a parent of a currently enrolled kindergarten through grade twelve (K–12) public school student. One (1) member shall be appointed by the Tennessee School Boards Association. One (1) member shall be appointed by the Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents. One (1) member shall be appointed by the Tennessee Education Association. One (1) member shall be appointed by the Tennessee Principals Association. The remaining six (6) members shall be kindergarten through grade twelve (K–12) public school teachers selected from each of the grand divisions of the state as follows: one (1) member shall be from a rural school system located in the middle grand division of the state by the speaker of the house of representatives and one (1) member shall from an urban school system located in the middle grand division of the state appointed by the speaker of the senate. The governor shall appoint two (2) members, one (1) from a rural school system in the eastern grand division and one (1) from an

urban school system in the eastern grand division of the state. The Tennessee Education Association shall appoint two (2) members, one (1) from a rural school system in the western grand division and one (1) from an urban school system in the western grand division. The membership of the committee shall appropriately reflect the racial and geographic diversity of this state. The commissioner of education shall serve as the chair of the committee. All appointments to the teacher evaluation advisory committee shall be made within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this act.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-302(d)(2)(A), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead:

(A) The committee shall develop and recommend to the board, guidelines, and criteria for the annual evaluation of all teachers and principals employed by LEAs, including a local-level evaluation grievance procedure. This grievance procedure shall provide a means for evaluated teachers and principals to challenge the accuracy of the data used in the evaluation and the adherence to the evaluation policies adopted pursuant to this subdivision (d)(2)(A). Following the development of these guidelines and criteria, the board shall adopt guidelines and criteria. The evaluations shall be a factor in employment decisions, including, but not necessarily limited to, promotion, retention, termination, compensation, and the attainment of tenure status.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-302(d)(2)(B), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead:

(B)

(i) The policies adopted pursuant to subdivision (d)(2)(A) shall be effective no later than July 1, 2016, in order to be implemented prior to the 2016–2017 academic year. Prior to the implementation of these policies, there shall be a moratorium on the use of TVAAS for purposes of principal and teacher evaluations.

(ii) The evaluation procedure created by this subsection (d) shall not apply to teachers who are employed under contracts of duration of one hundred twenty (120) days per school year or less or who are not employed full-time.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-29-238(a), is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision:

( ) Teacher evaluation advisory committee, created by § 49-1-302;

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.